

District II Advisory Board Minutes

July 11, 2005

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The District II Advisory Board meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Rockwell Branch Library, 5939 E. 9th Street North. Eight board members, eight staff and approximately fifteen citizens were in attendance. Only those individuals who signed in are listed as guests below.

Members Present

Brian Carduff
Daryl Crotts
Larry Frutiger
Tim Goodpasture
Joe Johnson
David Mollhagen
Phil Ryan
Marty Weeks
Council Member Sue Schlapp

*Youth Representative

Members Absent

Sarah Devries
Ray Frederick
Matt Hesse
Dane Saksa*
Kaci Tucker*

Staff Present

Trinh Bui, Finance
Chris Carrier, Engineering
Kelli Glassman, Neighborhood Assistant
Officer Jones, Patrol North
Rob Raine, Finance
Officer Shirkey, Patrol East
David Warren, Water and Sewer
Joe Yager, Finance

Guests

Mr. Jeff Boone, 12727 E Kellogg
Mr. Jim Boone, 12727 E Kellogg
Mr. O M Chauhan, 31 Laurel
Mr. Lewis Patton, 8331 Zimmerly

ORDER OF BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA

The agenda for June 20, 2005 was approved with the following changes (8-0):

- The ERU item will be presented before the Water and Sewer fee item
- CUP2005-00030 and ZON2005-00027 has been deferred indefinitely due to applicant request

The meeting minutes for June 20, 2005 were approved as submitted (8-0)

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. Scheduled items

No items submitted.

2. Off-agenda items

No items submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Community Police Report

Officer Shirkey, Patrol East, reported to the Board:

- an overview of the JUDGE program which helps eliminate underage drinking.
- prostitution is continuing to move to Central and Grove from Broadway and is continuing to be addressed and reduced.
- Police are continuing to monitor and address high accident intersections
- Police have apprehended someone in the recent construction burglaries in east Wichita and as a result, these robberies have decreased.
- To address larceny to vehicles at Sundance and Broadmoor at Chelsea, there are officers living in the Broadmoor at Chelsea to prevent this from continuing to occur.

Officer Jones, Patrol North, was also present and informed the Board that she is replacing Officer Parker as the community police officer for this area. Officer Jones mentioned that she is looking for a contact person for the Rockhill area. She is working with Kelli Glassman to get this.

Furthermore, the Board asked Officer Jones how to get a speed detecting sign placed in a neighborhood in order to reduce speeding. Officer Jones suggested contacting Patrol North to assist with this.

The Board thanked Officer Jones and Officer Shirkey for their presentations.

Action Taken: Received and filed.

4. Stormwater Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) Fee Increases

Chris Carrier, Public Works, presented this item. Operations, small projects, and water quality is paid for by Equivalent Residential Unit fees. Non-residential properties are charged one ERU for every 2,139 square feet of impermeable surface. Construction and reconstruction projects are paid for by ERU fees and General Obligation (GO) bonds. The current Proposed Storm Water CIP includes 19 projects totaling \$64,875,000. These projects are funded by G.O. bonds (\$10.5 million), ERU revenues (\$37.4 million), and grants/other (\$17 million) and are intended to reduce flooding of homes and businesses.

The 2005 Black & Veatch Stormwater Utility Survey reports the median ERU to be \$3.70 (85 cities responding), in which Wichita ranked 76th out of 85. Wichita's current ERU rate of \$1.50 per

month generates \$5,550,000 annually. Each 1¢ increase in the ERU rate increases revenue by \$37,000. ERU revenues are projected to grow 1% (about \$50,000) per year as the City grows. Therefore, staff is recommending that these new projects be funded by two 25¢ ERU increases. ERU fees are proposed to increase to \$1.75 in 2006 and \$2.00 in 2007.

Mr. O M Chauhan, 31 Laurel, stated that prior to the instatement of ERU fees in 1992, funds for drainage projects were adequate. He suggested that a citizens review committee be formed to complete a systems review to verify that these funds are being used appropriately and efficiently. Mr. Carrier replied that before, 199, not much was done with stormwater projects. In 1990, the City of Wichita did a master drainage plan due to drainage problems throughout the City. With new federal regulations pertaining to stormwater quality, ERU funds must be raised to complete these improvements, since local governments incur a majority of the costs of these projects.

The Board made the following comments regarding this item:

- Requested to know how much of the ERU revenues are from business vs. residential properties? Upon further investigation, staff informed the Board that this figure is about 50/50, but businesses make up only about 11% of the customers.
- Would like to see increased ERU fees for residential properties in order to decrease the burden of this fee increase on businesses.
- Feels that this rate increase is reasonable.

Action Taken: Provided comment on the proposed ERU fee increases for City Council consideration.

5. Water and Sewer Rate Increases

David Warren, Water and Sewer, presented this item to the Board. The Water and Sewer Utilities are experiencing the need for large capital expenditures in relation to system expansion and development needs. In the case of the Water Utility, the needed expansion in the source of supply is to be accomplished through the Integrated Water Supply Plan which will result in much higher than average capital expenditures over the next several years. Likewise, the Sewer Utility has faced pressures that have resulted in the recent need for the construction of the Cowskin Creek facility and the upcoming construction of the Mid Continent facility.

The primary source of revenues for both Utilities comes from rates. Therefore, staff is recommending a six percent increase in water rates and a seven percent increase in sewer rates in the 2006 Proposed Budget.

Mr. O M Chauhan, 31 Laurel, raised questions regarding the comparisons of water and sewer fees with other cities, as some water and sewer fee figures include trash service. Mr. Chauhan further suggested an internal review process to identify more efficient work processes in order to offset the proposed fee increase; as well as, contract with local businesses to further decrease costs of future projects. Finally, Mr. Chauhan commented that these rate increases are increasing at a faster rate than the average citizen incomes. Mr. Warren replied that these fee increases will go towards investment in technology for water and sewer services and that much of water and sewer construction work is done locally and that much of the project work requires temporary staff.

The Board asked about the longevity of the Cheney water supply. Mr. Warren replied that this supply is sufficient to meet City of Wichita water and sewer customer needs for the next 10-12 years. Mr. Warren also stated that El Dorado lake and the lake near Winfield do not have enough

water rights to adequately meet City water supply needs and that it would be inefficient to transport water from these lakes. Therefore, it is important to preserve the equus beds to ensure adequate future water supply for the City.

Action Taken: Provided comments on proposed water and sewer rate increases for City Council consideration.

6. City of Wichita 2006–2007 Proposed Budget

Rob Raine, Trinh Bui, and Joe Yager, Finance, introduced this item. City Finance staff have coordinated the development of the 2006/2007 Proposed Budget. By state law, the City Manager is required to present a proposed budget to the Governing Body. The official public hearing for formal adoption of the budget will be August 8, 2005. There are public hearings at all City Council meetings on and between July 19 and August 8.

The City Manager's 2006/2007 Proposed Budget includes:

- a 12th consecutive year without an increase in the mill levy;
- an increase in the Cultural and Arts funding;
- increases in Water and Sewer rates to help fund capital needs for future water supply and growth-driven improvements;
- funding for an enhanced bridge maintenance program;
- 7 new Firefighter positions in 2006;
- enhancements for visitor and employee security at City Hall;
- absorbed increases in personal services, including increased Police & Fire pension contributions and anticipated increases in employee health insurance costs;
- a Contracts Compliance Manager in Purchasing;
- funding for the Police neighborhood P.A.C.K. program for at-risk youth;
- additional street lights for newly annexed areas;
- an ERU rate increase in 2006 and 2007, to help fund storm water remediation projects;
- provision to enhance the warrant process;
- technology enhancements for field employees; and
- absorption of inflationary adjustments.

Lewis Patton, 8331 Zimmerly, urged not to cut the warrant officer positions in favor of more field officers and related statistics of unserved warrants and the importance of maintaining these positions.

Brenda Welch, 1928 E 42nd, and Monica Flynn, 14200 Wintworth, requested that funding originally promised for arts and cultural organizations not be cut as proposed currently.

The Board discussed the increasing property appraisal values, even though the mill levy has remained steady for many years; as well as, the need for increased public safety services in District 2.

Action Taken: Provided comments on proposed 2006-2007 budget for City Council consideration.

7. CUP2005-00030 and ZON2005-00027

Creation of Country Hollow Commercial CUP located south of US 54 and east of 127 Street and zone change from SF-20 to LC located southeast corner of 127th Street and US 54.

Action Taken: By applicant request, this item has been deferred indefinitely.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 8.** There has been no official action taken on acquiring potential parkland in District 2; however, staff is still continuing to research possible locations and options for this project.

Also, there has been discussion of a district session to discuss issues within District 2 tentatively scheduled for October 17, 2005.

BOARD AGENDA

9. Updates, Issues, and Reports

No items were submitted.

- 10. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.**

The **next DAB II meeting** will be **September 19**, 2005 at the Rockwell Branch Library.